GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:882
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN TAMIL NADU
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Tribal Communities, their population, their area of habitation and the various schemes to enhance their living standards in Tamil Nadu;

(b) The steps taken by the Government to improve the standard of living of Tribals, particularly the lambadi Tribes in South India;

(c) whether the Government have introduced/propose to introduce any new schemes to provide self-employment opportunities for the Tribal people in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the reports of Anthropological Survey of India is the only authoritative source for classification of Tribes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) According to Article 342 of the Constitution, 36 tribal communities have been scheduled. The Census of India has not published the tribe-wise population so far. The total tribal population in Tamil Nadu was 5.74 lakhs as per 1991 census constituting 1.03% of the total population of the State. Names of Integrated Tribal Development Projects having tribal concentration in different districts in Tamil Nadu alongwith area in sq kms are given below:

S.No. District Name of the ITDP AreaSq Kms.

1. Namakkal Kolli Hills 224.85

2. Salem Yercaud Hills 147.50

3. Salem Kalrayan Hills 319.21

4. Salem Aranuthumalai 29.02

5. Salem Pachamalai 109.82
6. Tiruvannamalai Jawadhu Hills 310.35

7 Villuparam Kalrayan Hills 600.00

8. Dharmapuri Sitheri Hills 188.00

9. Trichy Pachamalai 128.83

For the overall development of the Scheduled Tribes the concept of Tribal Sub-plan is in operation since 1976-77 in Tamil Nadu with twin objectives viz. (a) socio economic development of scheduled tribes and (b) protection of tribals from exploitation.
The Scheduled Tribe families are assisted to enhance their living standards through implementation of various schemes/programmes. Specific programmes like horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Khadi and Village Industries, Sericulture, Minor Irrigation, Forestry, Corporation, Electrification, Housing, Communication Manpower and Employment, Drinking water, Medical and Rural Health etc. are implemented in the State.

(b) The people belonging to Lambadi Scheduled Tribe Community are inhabiting in the plain areas in the State of Andhra Pradesh as dispersed tribals as well as in 41 pockets under Modified Development Approach (MADA) and 178 clusters. Various development schemes are being implemented for the upliftment of tribals in these areas.

(c)&(d) Various self employment generation schemes are being implemented by National Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Finance Development Corporation, in addition to various self-employment schemes of State and Central Ministries.

(e)&(f) No. The Anthropological Survey prepares field based authoritative reports on various dimensions of the Scheduled Tribes from anthropological perspectives. There are several tribal research institutes of State Governments and University departments of Anthropology, besides the office of the Registrar General (Census of India), Government of India, who also prepare reports on the tribes of India.